

**WTVA
SIGNIFICANT TREATMENT
OF COMMUNITY ISSUES
APRIL 1 – JUNE 30, 2007**

ISSUE: STAY IN SCHOOL

PROGRAM: FOCUS – LOCAL – PUBLIC AFFAIRS – 4/7/07– 5:00– 5:30 P.M.

MISSISSIPPI'S DROP OUT RATE HELPED FACILITATE A NEW JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM IN 8TH GRADE HISTORY CLASS TO TEACH THE ECONOMICS OF STAYING IN SCHOOL. THE BETTER THE EDUCATION, POSSIBLY THE BETTER THE JOB. JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT ALSO TEACHES ANOTHER PROGRAM IN THE 12TH GRADE AT TWO HIGH SCHOOLS IN LEE COUNTY. VOLUNTEERS ACTUALLY TEACH THE CLASSES AND THEY NEED DONATIONS AND BUSINESS LEADERS TO HELP TEACH.

ISSUE: INFANT HEALTH ISSUES

PROGRAM: FOCUS – LOCAL – PUBLIC AFFAIRS – 4/14/07– 5:00 – 5:30 P.M.

TONYA FINCH, DIVISION DIRECTOR FOR THE MARCH OF DIMES WAS TODAY'S GUEST. 74% OF MONEY RAISED LOCALLY STAYS LOCAL. OTHER PERCENTAGE GOES TOWARD RESEARCH. WALK AMERICA IS THE BIG FUNDRAISER FOR THE MARCH OF DIMES TO BE HELD ON APRIL 28TH. MARCH OF DIMES HELPS EDUCATE ABOUT PREMATURE BABIES, BABIES WITH BIRTH DEFECTS AND INFANT MORTALITY. MISSISSIPPI HAS A LARGE NUMBER OF PROBLEMS IN THIS AREA. PRE-NATAL CARE IS CRITICAL TO HELP AVOID BIRTH PROBLEMS.

ISSUE: SEXUAL ASSAULT

PROGRAM: FOCUS – LOCAL – PUBLIC AFFAIRS – 4/21/07 – 5:00 – 5:30 P.M.

RENATA ANDREWS, COMMUNITY EDUCATOR FOR SAFE, INCORPRATED TALKED ABOUT APRIL BEING SEXUAL ASSUALT AWARENESS MONTH. NATIONAL STATISTIES SHOW THAT CRIME HAS GONE UP 69% SINCE 1993. EDUCATION IS A BIG HELP IN GETTING PEOPLE TO TALK ABOUT AN ASSUALT. THAT IT IS OK TO TALK ABOUT IT. THEY EMPHASIZE THAT IT IS WRONG TO TOUCH SOMEONE IN THE WRONG WAY. SAFE, INCORPORATED HAS BEEN A SAFE SHELTER HERE SINCE 1979.

ISSUE: LEADERSHIP

PROGRAM: FOCUS – LOCAL – PUBLIC AFFAIRS – 4/28/07 – 5:00 – 5:30 P.M.

DR. MAUREEN LIBERTO AND WILLIAM GOTTSHALL FROM THE OLE MISS FIRST LOTT INSTITUTE TALKED ABOUT HOW THEY PROVIDE SCHOLARSHIPS TO POTENTIAL YOUNG LEADERS IN THE COMMUNITY. THEY SEEK FUNDING FROM INDIVIDUALS TO HELP YOUNG PEOPLE LEARN ABOUT LEADERSHIP NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY. THEY ALSO PROVIDE MENTORS AND SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS JUST STARTING COLLEGE.

ISSUE: VOLUNTEERS

PROGRAM: JEFFERSON AWARDS – LOCAL – PUBLIC AFFAIRS – 5/26/07 – 5:00 – 5:30 P.M.

THIS IS THE ANNUAL SHOW WE RUN TO HONOR THE FIVE NORTH MISSISSIPPI VOLUNTEERS WHO ARE DOING EXTRAORDINARY THINGS IN THEIR COMMUNITY. THE JEFFERSON AWARDS IS A NATIONAL PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD. WE OPEN UP A CALL TO ANYONE WHO WANTS TO NOMINATE A WORTHY VOLUNTEER. THEN A COMMITTEE PICKS THE TOP FIVE. ONE OF THOSE FIVE GOES TO WASHINGTON DC TO THE NATIONAL AWARDS CEREMONY.

ISSUE: FOSTER CARE

PROGRAM: FOCUS – LOCAL – PUBLIC AFFAIRS – 6/2/07 – 5:00 – 5:30 P.M.

PATRICIA DIGBY AND TRACY RHYMER, FOSTER CARE SPECIALISTS TALKED ABOUT MAY BEING FOSTER CARE AWARENESS MONTH. DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES WANTS TO PUT MORE CHILDREN IN ORIGINAL HOMES IF POSSIBLE. IF NOT, THEN IN A FOSTER CARE HOME AS OPPOSED TO A GROUP HOME. HARDEN HOUSE IS A GROUP HOME IN FULTON. IN TUPELO THE OFFICE WORKS TO PLACE YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE. MISSISSIPPI HAS A HIGH NUMBER OF FOSTER CHILDREN.

ISSUE: BOATING SAFETY

PROGRAM: FOCUS – LOCAL – PUBLIC AFFAIRS – 6/9/07 – 5:00 – 5:30 P.M.

WILL BOWLIN AND MARSHALL MCGRAW OF THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS SAID THAT BOATING TRAFFIC IS INCREASING EACH YEAR IN MISSISSIPPI. ALCOHOL IS A BIG PROBLEM WHILE BOATING. FIRST MAKE SURE YOUR BOAT IS REGISTERED. PEOPLE BORN AFTER 1980 MUST TAKE A BOATING SAFETY CLASS. THERE IS A FINE FOR NOT HAVING ENOUGH OR PROPER FLOATATION DIVICES ON BOARD. YOUNG PEOPLE MUST BE WEARING A PERSONAL FLOATATION DEVICE. BOATING SAFETY CLASSES ARE OFFERED TWICE A YEAR IN MISSISSIPPI.

ISSUE: ELECTION CHANGES

PROGRAM: FOCUS – LOCAL – PUBLIC AFFAIRS – 6/23/07 – 5:00 – 5:30 P.M.

LEE COUNTY CIRCUIT CLERK JOYCE LOFTIN AND ELECTION COMMITTEE CHAIR KRISTIN BUSE TALKED ABOUT HOW 2007 IS A BUSY ELECTION YEAR IN MISSISSIPPI. THE PROCESS IS COMPLICATED DUE TO WARDS THAT CAN BE MULTIPLE IN ONE PRECINCT. THERE COULD BE MULTIPLE BALLOTS. BUT ELECTION COMMISSION WORKERS HAVE TAKEN STEPS TO MAKE THE ELECTION PROCESS AS QUICK AS POSSIBLE AND ACCURATE. ELECTION FRAUD IS NOT MUCH OF A PROBLEM. IT OCCURS UNINTENTIONALLY WHEN VOTER ROLLS MAY HAVE SOME OUT OF DATE INFORMATION ON THEM. THE COMMISSION MEETS ONCE A MONTH TO MAKE VOTER ROLLS MORE ACCURATE.

ISSUE: MENTAL HEALTH CARE

PROGRAM: FOCUS – LOCAL – PUBLIC AFFAIRS – 6/30/07 – 5:00 – 5:30 P.M.

THREE MENTAL HEALTH SPECIALISTS WERE TODAY'S GUESTS WHO TALKED ABOUT A MULTI-AGENCY CAMPAIGN CALLED "WHAT A DIFFERENCE A FRIEND MAKES". IT TARGETS 18-34 YEAR OLDS TO HELP ELIMINATE THE STIGMA THAT MANY HAVE REGARDING MENTAL ILLNESS. ONE IN FOUR PEOPLE SUFFER FROM SOME TYPE OF MENTAL ILLNESS. THERE WILL BE A PUBLIC RELATIONS CAMPAIGN EFFORT AND THEN TAKE MESSAGES TO SPECIFIC AGE GROUPS. THEN THEY WILL TARGET OLDER PERSONS.